

postorbital processes. The infra-orbital foramen is, as a rule, not large, but is increased in size in a few forms. The number of separate pieces of bone in the sternum is five. The molars of the upper jaw are five, but the first is very small and soon drops out.

The Squirrels are often rather brilliantly coloured. The Chinese *Sc. castaneiventris* has grey fur with a rich chestnut-coloured under surface. The Malabar Squirrel, *Sc. mamimus*, as its name implies, a large animal, has a deep reddish or chestnut-coloured fur above, which becomes yellow below. The "Common

Squirrel," "the lytill squerell full of besynesse," which is the Squirrel of this country, is brownish red on the upper parts and white below. It ranges from this country as far east as Japan. Like many other Itodents the Squirrel likes animal food and will eat both eggs and young birds. "Camel's hair" brushes are made from this animal. The genus *Tamias*, almost exclusively North American in range, is included by Dr. Forsyth Major¹ in this genus, which then consists of considerably over one hundred species.

The Ethiopian Ground Squirrels, genus *Xerus*, have a more elongated skull than *Sciurus*, and the postorbital processes are shorter. The feet are not hairy.

Nannosciurus forms a perfectly distinct genus of Squirrels.

These "Pygmy Squirrels" differ in possessing a very elongated "face" and in the very broad frontal region. The teeth are unlike those of *Sciurus* in certain features, and have been especially compared by Forsyth Major to those of the Dormice. Four species of this genus are Malayan; one is West African.

The Bornean *JKheitTirosciurus macro tis* is the only species of its genus. The genus may be distinguished by the exceedingly brachyodont molars, this feature being more marked in this genus than in all other Squirrels. It is called the "Groove-toothed

Squirrel," from the "seven to ten minute parallel vertical grooves running down the front face of its incisors." ²

The genus *Spermophilus* includes a large number (forty or so) of Palaearctic and Nearctic animals known as Sousliks. The ears are small; there are cheek pouches as in *Tamias*. The general

aspect of the animal is like that of a Marmot, and they bridge over the exceedingly narrow gap which separates the Marmots from the true Squirrels. Anatomically the skull is like that of

¹ *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 1893, p. 179.

³ Flower and Ly